

dramatic ups and downs, the Rock Island Arsenal became synonymous with quality and efficient work. Fred should take great pride in his role in helping to establish the Arsenal as perhaps the greatest armaments manufacturing facility in the world. Many of the numerous awards and citations recognizing the Arsenal as one of the premier facilities in the U.S. Army would not have become a reality without his hard work and foresight. Without a doubt, his work has made it a better place.

Fred's contributions to the Arsenal, our community and to the Nation's defense are immeasurable. I am glad that I had his wise council during my service on the House Armed Services Committee. He truly has a knack for making the most complicated and technical issues understandable to a layman as well as the ability to see how the bigger trends in our national security policy affect the arsenal. Without his expertise and his vision, my job in promoting the arsenal and its workforce in Congress would have been much tougher.

Fred's dedication to the Rock Island Arsenal has been an inspiration to those of us who believe in the value of public service. I know that he will be missed by all of those who have had the pleasure of working with him.

While Fred will be retiring, I know that he will still be involved in our efforts to maintain the Rock Island Arsenal and its irreplaceable capabilities. He has chosen to remain in the Quad Cities with his wife Cheri for their hard-earned break. I hope that I will still be able to turn to him for advice in our fight to maintain the best facility in the U.S. Army.

I wish Fred and his family the very best on his retirement.

HONORING KSEE 24 HISPANIC-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH HONOREES

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Hon. Jane Cardoza, Pilar De La Cruz, Gabriel Escalera, Frank C. Franco, and Dr. Cecilio Orozco for being selected as the 1999 Portraits of Success program honorees by KSEE 24 and Companies that Care. In celebration of Hispanic-American Heritage Month for September, these five leaders were honored for their unique contributions to the betterment of their community.

KSEE 24 and Companies that Care launched the 1999 Portraits of Success program to honor five distinguished local leaders in celebration of Hispanic-American Heritage month. Currently in its fifth year, this special project combines specially produced public service announcements, a five-part news series, plus an awards luncheon to publicly recognize the unique contributions of the Hon. Jane Cardoza, Pilar de la Cruz, Gabriel Escalera, Frank C. Franco and Dr. Cecilio Orozco.

Since graduating from law school of 1981, Judge Cardoza started her law career in the Fresno County District Attorney's office, pro-

ceeding to the offices of the Fresno City Attorney and State Attorney General, Fresno County Municipal Court and now is the Presiding Judge of Family Law for the Fresno County Superior Court. She is active in the San Joaquin College of Law Board of Trustees, the Fresno Metropolitan Museum Board of Trustees, Fresno Metropolitan Rotary, Fresno City College Puente Project Mentoring Program and Domestic Violence Roundtable.

Pilar de la Cruz began her nursing career in 1969 at Fresno Community Hospital and has moved up the corporate ladder to become vice-president of Education Development at Fresno Community. She has been instrumental in the development of the Jefferson Job Institute, a program to provide training for parents of school children for entry-level jobs in hospital settings. Ms. De la Cruz was named 1998 Volunteer of the Year by the American Heart Association and 1997 RN of the Year by the Central Valley Coalition of Nursing Organizations. She received the Latina Beyond Boundaries Award in Healthcare for 1998.

Gabriel Escalera has been in the field of education for 27 years, as principal of Alta Sierra Intermediate School for five years and is the principal of Gateway High School. His college major was physical education; played football for San Diego State and was an athletic director and coached football and wrestling for 12 years. Mr. Escalera is president of the Fresno chapter of the Association of Mexican-American Educators and is also president of the Fresno chapter of ACSA. He is a member of the Latino Educational Issues Roundtable and numerous professional and service organizations.

Mr. Franco is Business Development Manager for the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission and has been with the Commission for 16 years. He is Chairperson of the Board of the Metropolitan Flood Control District which is instrumental in developing new parks, is past president and board member of Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Franco enjoys working for the benefit of children and serves as a board member of Genesis, Inc., a group home for girls that also provides substance abuse counseling for women.

Dr. Orozco is Professor Emeritus at CSUF's School of Education. In 1980 in Utah he discovered the origins of the Nahuatl people, the ancestors of the Anasazi and Aztecs, and has repeatedly visited the sites. One of his proudest accomplishments was proposing the name of Miguel Hidalgo Elementary School which was the first school in Fresno to be named for a Hispanic, and this effort was partially responsible for his receiving the National Association for Bilingual Education's "Pioneer In Bilingual Education Medal" in 1997. Dr. Orozco published a book explaining the details of the Sun Stone of the Mexicas and the Aztec Calendar and in 1998 published (in Spanish) the essence of his research on the work of Lic. Alfonso Rivas Salmon which dealt with the origins of the Nahuatl people.

Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the contributions of Judge Jane Cardoza, Pilar De La Cruz, RN, Gabriel Escalera, Frank C. Franco, and Dr. Cecilio Orozco for the month of September, Hispanic-American Heritage Month.

These honorees will be recognized at a luncheon on September 13, 1999. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing these honorees many more years of continued success.

HONORING LARRY KATZ ON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to laud the life and accomplishments of my constituent and friend, Lawrence M. Katz, who retires today as a partner at the Baltimore law firm of Piper and Marbury.

Larry and I met at University of Maryland Law School where he distinguished himself as Articles Editor of the Maryland Law Review. After graduating from Maryland, Larry went on to complete an LL.M. degree in Taxation at New York University.

Experienced in all areas of federal income taxation, Larry has taught and advised me personally and professionally. While Larry serves on the Tax Advisory Committee of the American Law Institute, he also finds time to advise me as part of my constituent Tax Advisory Committee that meets a couple of times a year to hear about what Congress is proposing and to advise me about the virtues and possible pitfalls of these decisions. I can always count on him for a concise explanation of how the tax laws work, as well as straightforward, common sense advice on how, in a rational world, they should work.

Larry's knowledge and expertise in the law is exceeded only by the remarkable range of his curiosity, interest, exceptional good judgment. His fascination with the workings of the political system, and the Congress in particular, has significant consequences for me as his representative and his friend. Larry regularly shares with me articles he has read—from various tax journals—on matters of tax policy from the most arcane aspects of partnerships law to the need for comprehensive reform of our federal tax system. His questions and comments on the latest legislative and political actions demonstrate an acute understanding of Washington—I am sure it is this understanding which has kept him quite happy in Baltimore all these years.

I have been fortunate to have the benefit of Larry's legal counsel for the past thirty years. Even when Myrna and I vacation with Larry and his wife, Ann, down in Long Boat Key, I can count on Larry to bring his files with him—that way he gets to bill me and vacation with me at the same time. Before Myrna and I make vacation plans, we check with Larry, who serves as our amateur travel agent and photographer. Before we plant anything in our garden, we consult our resident horticulturist. Before we make any investment decisions, we check with our special financial adviser.

Larry Katz is listed in The Best Lawyers in America, a designation he richly deserves. I am grateful to know first-hand that if they publish The Best Friends in America, he has earned the right to be listed in the first chapter. As he retires, I thank Larry Katz for being